

Reply to Office Action dated November 14, 2006

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A dishwasher, comprising:
 - a washing chamber ~~having in which~~ tableware is washed therein;
 - a rack movably installed in the washing chamber to hold the tableware ~~thereon~~ therein;
 - a plurality of guide rollers fixed to both confronting sidewalls of the washing chamber;
 - a guide rail provided between the ~~first and second~~ plurality of guide rollers configured to slide back and forth; and
 - a height adjustment ~~means for moving~~ device configured to move the rack upward and downward, the height ~~adjust means~~ adjustment device provided to slide on the guide rail, wherein the height adjustment device comprises:
 - a supporter that fixes the height adjustment device to the rack; and
 - a guide panel coupled to slide on one side of the supporter to guide upward and downward movement of the supporter, the guide panel coupled to slide on the guide rail.

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2. (Currently Amended) The dishwasher as claimed in claim 1, wherein the height ~~adjust means comprising adjustment device further comprises:~~

~~a supporter fixing the rack thereto;~~

~~a guide panel coupled to the supporter to guide upward and downward movement of the supporter, the guide panel coupled to slide on the guide rail; and~~

first and second support parts formed at the supporter and the guide panel, respectively, to fix the supporter to a predetermined portion of the guide panel.

3. (Currently Amended) The dishwasher as claimed in claim 2, wherein the first support part ~~comprising comprises:~~

a first fixing portion formed to be stepped at one upper side of the supporter; and

a second fixing portion protruding from a top end of the guide panel, the second fixing portion being brought into contact with the first fixing portion to stop the supporter when the supporter moves downward.

4. (Currently Amended) The dishwasher as claimed in claim 2, wherein the second support part ~~comprising comprises:~~

a first incline portion having an upward incline plane at the guide panel; and

a second incline portion having a downward incline plane at one side of the supporter, the second incline portion sliding to be brought into contact with the ~~incline incline~~

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plane of the first incline portion to be caught on the first incline portion when the supporter moves upward.

5. (Currently Amended) The dishwasher as claimed in claim 4, wherein the height adjust ~~means device~~ further ~~comprising~~ comprises a button installed at the guide panel to push the supporter toward the rack to release the second incline portion caught on the first incline portion.

6. (Original) The dishwasher as claimed in claim 5, wherein the supporter is formed of an elastic material to be elastically compressed by the button and to be elastically restored.

7. (Original) The dishwasher as claimed in claim 6, wherein the supporter is formed of a plastic based material.

8. (Original) The dishwasher as claimed in claim 4, wherein a stopper is formed at the supporter and the guide panel so that the supporter is unable to further move upward when the second incline portion is caught on the first incline portion.

9. (Currently Amended) The dishwasher as claimed in claim 8, wherein the stopper ~~comprising~~ comprises:

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a first hook formed at the guide panel; and

a second hook formed at the supporter, wherein the first and second hooks are locked to each other so that the supporter moving upward is unable to further move upward.

10. (Original) The dishwasher as claimed in claim 2, wherein a slot is formed at the guide rail and a roller inserted in the slot of the guide rail to slide is formed at the guide panel.

11. (Original) The dishwasher as claimed in claim 2, wherein the rack comprises a multitude of wires crossing to be connected to each other and wherein a plurality of hooks are formed at the supporter to fix the upper lateral wires of the rack thereto.

12. (Original) The dishwasher as claimed in claim 2, wherein a plurality of protrusions are formed at the supporter to fix the lower lateral wire of the rack thereto.

13. (Original) The dishwasher as claimed in claim 12, wherein each of the protrusions has a hook shape and is supported by a rib extending from the supporter.

14. (Original) The dishwasher as claimed in claim 13, wherein the rib extends to an upper end of the protrusion to reinforce a rigidity of the protrusion.

15. (New) A height adjustment device for a dishwasher, the dishwasher having a washing chamber in which tableware is washed, a rack movably installed in the washing chamber to hold the tableware therein, a plurality of guide rollers fixed to both confronting sidewalls of the washing chamber, and a guide rail provided between the plurality of guide rollers configured to slide back and forth, the height adjustment device being configured to move the rack up and down and to slide on the guide rail and comprising:

a supporter that fixes the height adjustment device to the rack; and

a guide panel coupled to slide on one side of the supporter to guide upward and downward movement of the supporter, the guide panel coupled to slide on the guide rail.

16. (New) The height adjustment device as claimed in claim 15, wherein the height adjustment device further comprising:

first and second support parts formed at the supporter and the guide panel, respectively, to fix the supporter to a predetermined portion of the guide panel.

17. (New) The height adjustment device as claimed in claim 16, wherein the first support part comprises:

a first fixing portion formed to be stepped at one upper side of the supporter; and

a second fixing portion protruding from a top end of the guide panel, the second fixing portion being brought into contact with the first fixing portion to stop the supporter when the supporter moves downward.

18. (New) The height adjustment device as claimed in claim 16, wherein the second support part comprises:

a first incline portion having an upward incline plane at the guide panel; and

a second incline portion having a downward incline plane at one side of the supporter, the second incline portion sliding to be brought into contact with the incline plane of the first incline portion to be caught on the first incline portion when the supporter moves upward.

19. (New) The height adjustment device as claimed in claim 18, wherein the height adjustment device further comprises a button installed at the guide panel to push the supporter toward the rack to release the second incline portion caught on the first incline portion.

20. (New) The height adjustment device as claimed in claim 19, wherein the supporter is formed of an elastic material to be elastically compressed by the button and to be elastically restored.

21. (New) The height adjustment device as claimed in claim 18, wherein the supporter is formed of a plastic based material.

22. (New) The height adjustment device as claimed in claim 18, wherein a stopper is formed at the supporter and the guide panel so that the supporter is unable to further move upward when the second incline portion is caught on the first incline portion.

23. (New) The height adjustment device as claimed in claim 22, wherein the stopper comprises:

a first hook formed at the guide panel; and

a second hook formed at the supporter, wherein the first and second hooks are locked to each other so that the supporter moving upward is unable to further move upward.

24. (New) The height adjustment device as claimed in claim 16, wherein a slot is formed at the guide rail and a roller inserted in the slot of the guide rail to slide is formed at the guide panel.

25. (New) The height adjustment device as claimed in claim 16, wherein the rack comprises a multitude of wires crossing to be connected to each other and wherein a plurality of hooks are formed at the supporter to fix the upper lateral wires of the rack thereto.

26. (New) The height adjustment device as claimed in claim 16, wherein a plurality of protrusions are formed at the supporter to fix the lower lateral wire of the rack thereto.

27. (New) The height adjustment device as claimed in claim 26, wherein each of the protrusions has a hook shape and is supported by a rib extending from the supporter.

28. (New) The height adjustment device as claimed in claim 27, wherein the rib extends to an upper end of the protrusion to reinforce a rigidity of the protrusion.

29. (New) The height adjustment device as claimed in claim 29, wherein a stopper is formed at the supporter and the guide panel so that the supporter is unable to further move upward when the second incline portion is caught on the first incline portion.

30. (New) The height adjustment device as claimed in claim 29, wherein the stopper comprises:

a first hook formed at the guide panel; and

a second hook formed at the supporter, wherein the first and second hooks are locked to each other so that the supporter moving upward is unable to further move upward.